

Appln. No. 10/023,412
Amendment dated December 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed September 27, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 remain in this application.

The Examiner's rejections will be considered in the order of their occurrence in the Office Action.

Paragraphs 1-4 of the Office Action

Claims 1-9 have been objected to for the informalities noted in the Office Action.

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 have been amended in a manner believed to clarify any informalities in the language. Specifically, multiple instances of "being" have been deleted from the claims.

Withdrawal of the objection to claims 1-9 is therefore respectfully requested.

Paragraph 5 of the Office Action

Claims 1-9 are allowed over the prior art of record.

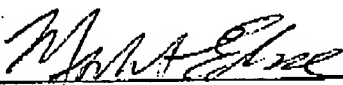
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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By  Date: 12/24/04
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